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(See inside cover)

Imagery analysis report

New-Generation CSS-2 IRBM Ground Support Equipment PRC (TSR)

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IAR-0063/79 25X1

OCTOBER 1979

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NEW-GENERATION CSS-2 IRBM GROUND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT, PRC (TSR)

1. (TSR) New-generation CSS-2 ground support equipment (GSE) has been identified in the People's Republic of China (PRC; Figure 1). This new-generation GSE has a four-axle chassis with two axles in front and two in back. The front two axles apparently steer in tandem, and all of the axles are probably drive axles. Various vehicle bodies have been mounted on the new chassis—primarily the heavy-load-carrying vehicles such as propellant transporters, prime movers for the transporter/erector, the launch stand transporter, and possibly the warhead van. The improved mobility of the mission-essential GSE mounted on the new chassis enhances the capability of CSS-2 units with this equipment to be deployed to off-road and unimproved field launch positions.

2. (TSR) High-resolution photography of Dengshahe (Teng-sha-ho) SSM Field Training Position 1/2 [redacted] and Wuzhai (Wu-chai) Missile Test Complex [redacted] 25X1
showed that many of the special-purpose GSE and prime movers have been mounted on the new four-axle chassis. The I2/J2 propellant vehicles, P1 propellant transfer vehicles, and prime movers for the transporter/erector were observed with this chassis at Wuzhai, and the I1/J1 propellant vehicles, P1 propellant transfer vehicles, and a launch stand transporter were also observed with this chassis at Dengshahe. The addition of a fourth axle should give these vehicles a heavier cargo load capability or permit the same cargo load to be moved over less trafficable terrain. Mensuration of the cargo areas indicated that the cargo capacity of the bodies on the new chassis has not been significantly changed. This supports the idea that the purpose of the conversion is to increase the mobility of the CSS-2 GSE.

3. (TSR) The smaller and lighter vehicles in the CSS-2 GSE complement do not appear to have been converted from their present two-axle and three-axle chassis, perhaps because these vehicles are already sufficiently mobile to match the new four-axle chassis. The use of a four-axle prime mover to pull the CSS-2 missile transporter and transporter/erector, as observed at Wuzhai, would give this equipment the same mobility as the other GSE. Similar high-mobility four-axle vehicles have been developed in the US, NATO, and Warsaw Pact countries. The US four-axle trucks (Figure 4) were used primarily with some of the GSE for the mobile Pershing missile system.

4. (TSR) The four-axle chassis wheelbase [redacted] from the front to the back axle (Figure 5). The 25X1
spacing of the front two axles [redacted] as is the spacing of the rear axles. The distance from the front to 25X1
the rear interior axles [redacted] The four-axle chassis, compared to the previous three-axle chassis, should 25X1
have a lower ground pressure on each tire and approximately 20 to 33 percent more traction available,

(Continued p. 5)

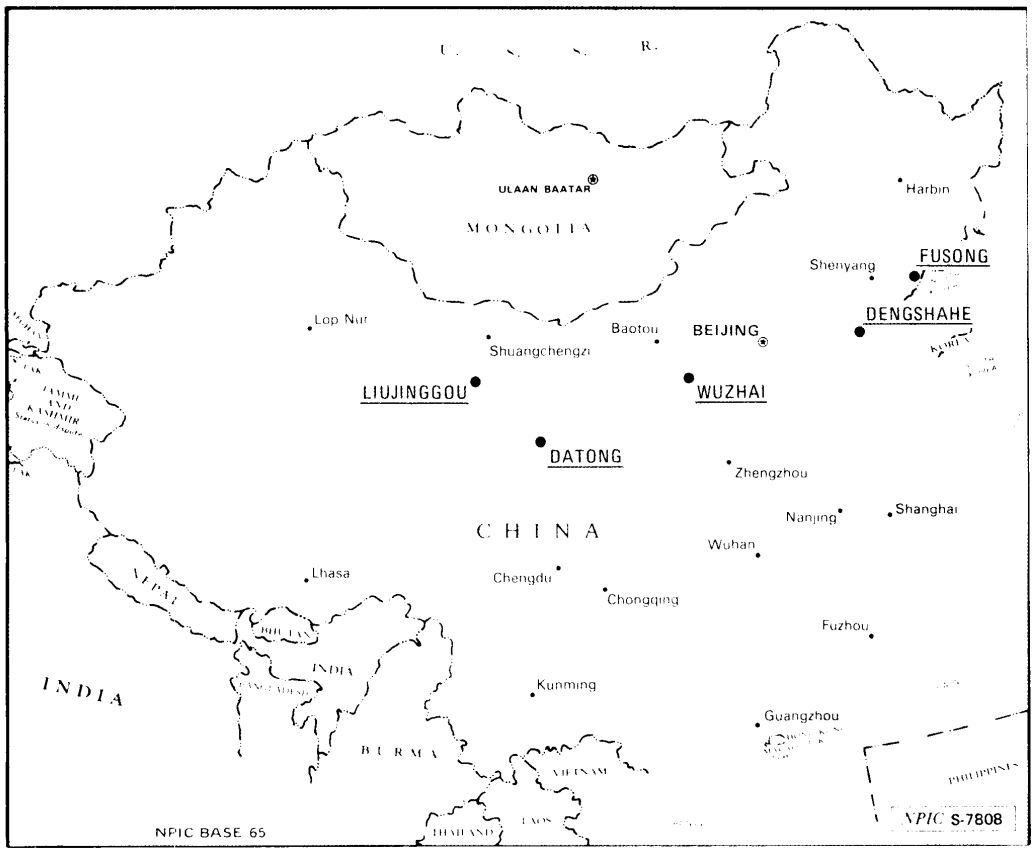

FIGURE 1. LOCATIONS OF NEW-GENERATION CSS-2 IRBM GROUND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT, PRC

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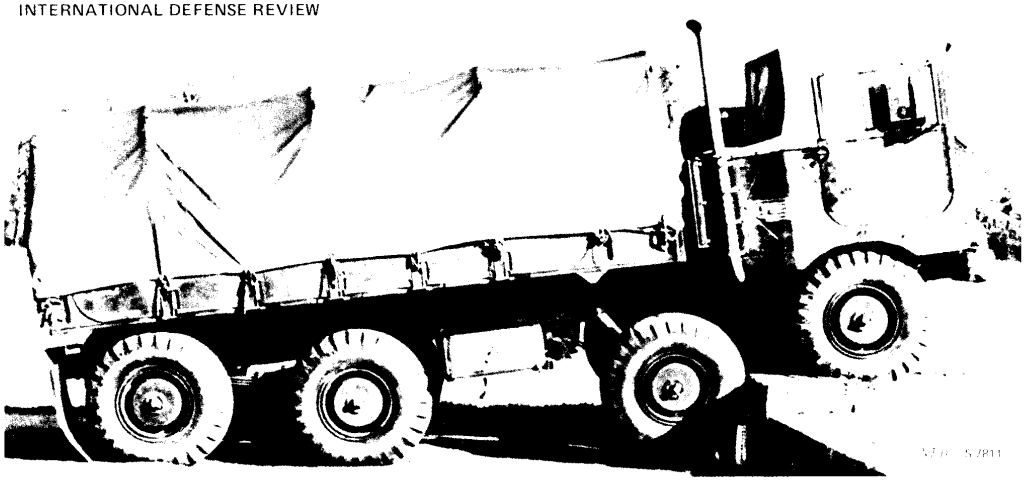

FIGURE 4. GROUND PHOTO OF US FOUR-AXLE VEHICLE

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FIGURE 5. CONCEPTUAL DRAWING OF FOUR-AXLE CHASSIS

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depending on whether the rear axles have single or dual wheels. This increased traction would allow the GSE mounted on the new chassis to traverse softer soils and more difficult terrain. This increase in trafficability would make more terrain suitable for CSS-2 field deployment and would increase the ability of CSS-2 units to successfully move to field deployment positions in the event of bad weather or tactical obstacles. It also increases the area of land suitable for field deployment, thus increasing the difficulty in detecting the field deployment sites.

5. (TSR) A preliminary review of the deployed CSS-2 facilities was made on recent high-resolution imagery to determine the extent of CSS-2 GSE deployment with the four-axle chassis. The combined requirements for resolution and look angle significantly reduced the ability to differentiate the four-axle from the three-axle chassis. Four-axle chassis have been identified at Datong (Ta-tung) SSM Field Garrison [redacted] Fusong (Fu-sung) SSM Field Training Position 3 [redacted] and Liujinggou (Liu-ching-kou) SSM Launch Complex Garrison [redacted] in addition to Wuzhai and Dengshahe. The earliest confirmed observation of the four-axle chassis was [redacted] at Datong SSM Field Garrison. 25X1 25X1 25X1

REFERENCES

[redacted] 25X1

Small-Format Imagery

International Defense Review, Switzerland, Mar 75 (UNCLASSIFIED)

RELATED DOCUMENTS

FTD/AFSC [redacted] RFB-22/0016/78, *PRC Ground Support Equipment (GSE), Missile Associated (U)*, Sep 78 (TOP SECRET RUFF) 25X1

FTD/AFSC [redacted] PAR-78-634, *PRC SSM Associated Ground Support Equipment (GSE) Update 2 (U)*, 1 Aug 78 (TOP SECRET RUFF) 25X1

REQUIREMENT

Project 130144NG

[redacted] 25X1

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